

SUSTAINABLE WATERSHEDS WORKSHOP

March 20, 2008, 5-7:30 p.m. at TTOR's Doyle Conservation Center, Leominster



Sprawling towns have witnessed many rapid changes to their rural character, water resources, wildlife habitats, working forests and farms. Governor Patrick has wisely envisioned the need for more land conservation in the Environmental Bond Bill to protect cherished natural resources and community amenities.

With building at low ebb, communities have time to consider new tools for managing growth. Conservation design, transfer of development rights and traditional neighborhood designs offer diverse benefits. Low Impact Development will also protect and renew the health of local waters. When combined with municipal open space plans, these techniques can save the unique watersheds of New England.

Workshop panelists will discuss conservation design and share winning examples of how towns can grow greener and enact practices that

preserve the ecological health of watersheds. Concurrent workshops outlined below will help watershed organizations, land trusts, municipal officials, town planners, home-builders and engineers to prevent damages and renew community waters. The meeting is free, pre-registration is requested. For more information, please call (978) 534-0379 or email mwc@commonwaters.org.

Agenda

- 4:30 p.m. Registration and refreshments
Exhibit: "Wachusett Greenprint for Sustainable Development"
- 5:00 ***Sustainable Watersheds*** (plenary discussion)
- "Green Towns" concept, the new template of looking at the land in terms of the resources to be conserved – *Peter Flinker, Dodson Associates*
 - Sustainable Development & MA Environmental Bond – *Ed Himlan, MA Watershed Coalition*
- 6:00 ***Conservation Design and Practice*** (concurrent workshop)
- Conservation Subdivisions – how to create and plug in Best Development guidebooks, subdivision regulations, and municipal bylaws – *Andrea Cooper, EEA-CZM Smart Growth Coordinator*
 - Transfer of Development Rights and Traditional Neighborhood Design – effective tools for managing community growth – *Kurt Gaertner, Director of Land Use Policy, EOEEA*
- Open Space Protection Planning and Practice*** (concurrent workshop)
- Strategies for linking municipal Open Space Plans with conservation design tools and Environmental Bond Bill funding – *Laurie Connors, Millbury Town Planner*
 - Using conservation subdivisions to achieve local open space and affordable housing objectives – *Susan Jones Moses, Planning Consultant*
- 7:30 p.m. Adjourn